PATENT USSN: 10/595,480 Atty Dckt No.: 034166.024

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed 26 October 2010, has been received and its contents carefully noted. Claims 9-20 and 27-33 were pending, claims 9, 11, 12, 31, and 32 were rejected, claims 10 and 13-20 were objected to, and claims 27-30 and 33 were withdrawn from consideration. By this Response, claims 10 and 27-31 have been amended and claims 1-9, 11, 13-14, 17, 19, 21-26 and 33 have been canceled. No statutory new matter has been added. Therefore, reconsideration and entry of the claims as amended are respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

The Examiner rejected claims 9, 11-12, and 31-32 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Fung (US 4,467,045).

Applicants respectfully submit that this rejection is moot in view of the amendments to the claims. Therefore, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) should properly be withdrawn.

Claim Objection

The Examiner objected to claim 31 for various informalities.

Applicants respectfully submit that the objection to claim 31 may be withdrawn in view of the amendment made thereto.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner indicated that claims 10 and 13-20 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants have amended claims 10 to be in independent form and amended claims 27-31 to depend on claim 10. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request rejoinder of withdrawn claims 27-30. As all claims, as now pending, are directly or indirectly dependent on claim 10, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in a condition for allowance and look forward to a Notice of Allowability.

PATENT USSN: 10/595,480 Atty Dckt No.: 034166.024

Request for Interview

Either a telephonic or an in-person interview is respectfully requested should there be any remaining issues.

CONCLUSION

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Official action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

It is not believed that extensions of time are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in accompanying documents. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a), and any fees required therefore are hereby authorized to be charged to **Deposit Account No. 024300**, Attorney Docket No. **034166.024**.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzannah K. Sundby

Date: 15 February 2011

Registration No. 43,172

SMITH, GAMBRELL & RUSSELL, LLP 1130 Connecticut Ave., NW, #1130

Washington, D.C. 20036 Telephone: (202) 263-4332

Fax: (202) 263-4352 ssundby@sgrlaw.com